

# Friday Night Fax

*A Periodic Publication for Indiana AmeriCorps Programs*

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Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism

Phone (317) 233-4273

Fax (317) 233-5660

## The State of the Union and National Service

During President Bush's State of the Union Address, Americans were called upon to serve their country for the equivalent of two years - or 4,000 hours - over a lifetime. One way President Bush's Administration intends to help Americans fulfill these individual obligations is through the creation of the USA Freedom Corps. The Key Elements of the USA Freedom Corps are cited in the blueprint and found at: [www.usafreedomcorps.gov](http://www.usafreedomcorps.gov) These elements include: a newly created Citizen Corps to engage citizens in homeland security, an improved and enhanced AmeriCorps and Senior Corps, and a strengthened Peace Corps. The President is requesting more than \$560 million in new funds in Fiscal Year 2003 to support this new citizen service initiative. If you have not already done so, we strongly encourage you to visit the website and learn more about the President's proposal as we move into a historic new era of citizen service.

## Unified State Plan Meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>

The first step in the Unified State Plan process was successful as the ICCSV hosted over 30 stakeholders at a meeting in Indianapolis on January 24<sup>th</sup>. This meeting provided a productive exchange of ideas and suggestions for addressing service and volunteerism in the State of Indiana during the next three years. This is an exciting opportunity to work with committed individuals working in service in communities across the state. A meeting will be held in the near future with the stakeholders to begin further addressing the goals for the Unified State Plan. In the meantime, stakeholders are encouraged to visit the Oncourse website at [www.oncourse.iupui.edu](http://www.oncourse.iupui.edu) and read about the progress that has been made and the future activities scheduled for developing the plan.

## Success of Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Events and Celebration

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, January 20-21, 2002 was an opportunity for 200 youth from all over Indiana and their adult mentors to get to know each other and break down social, age, economic, and ethnic barriers in the mission of peace of MLK. This was an incredible opportunity for the participants to be involved in peace trainings and to learn about issues such as hunger, peace and non-violence, diversity appreciation, and literacy. Youth learned how to address these issues in their own communities and how to get involved with service organizations such as Gleaner's Food Bank, Hoosiers Concerned with Gun Violence, AmeriCorps, the UNICEF, and the American Red Cross. As part of this weekend of learning, participants attended a public Celebration of MLK's life and legacy held at the Indianapolis Colts Pavilion. The 400 participants of the public celebration were involved in interactive and multimedia activities, and enjoyed performers, music, and dignitary speakers such as the First Lady Judy O'Bannon, Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, and Congresswoman Julia Carson.

## Office of Inspector General Update

The pre-audit of the ICCSV to be conducted by Cotton & Company LLP will begin on February 11, 2002. The initial activity will carry on through late February and a pre-audit report will be issued within two months of this review. Shortly before the report is issued, we expect the auditors to begin site visits to ICCSV sub-grantees. The activity will include desk reviews, site visits, and the review of independent audit work papers. Member files, match, and overall program operation will be part of the review. We will continue to provide updates to sub-grantees and the Commission Board via e-mail and the Friday Night Fax. If you have questions, please contact Amber Roos at 317-233-0900 or by e-mail at [aroos@dwd.state.in.us](mailto:aroos@dwd.state.in.us) or Karyn Romer at 317-233-0901 or by e-mail at [kromer@dwd.state.in.us](mailto:kromer@dwd.state.in.us).

## Success of Youth Legislative Breakfast

January 9, 2002 was the third annual Youth Legislative Breakfast held at the Indiana Statehouse Rotunda. The Indiana Youth Commission for Service and Leadership co-sponsored the Youth Legislative Breakfast with such youth advocacy organizations as the Governor's Commission for a Drug-Free Indiana, the Governor's Council on Impaired and Dangerous Driving, and the Indiana Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking. This was an incredible opportunity for over 150 youth to meet face-to-face with 35 Indiana elected officials. Youth advocacy topics such as placing youth on the state board of education, raising the tobacco tax, drinking and driving, and drug abuse reform were discussed. Youth also learned how to participate in the legislative process.

## Learn and Serve Orientation for New Sub-Grantees

The Commission will host an orientation for new Learn and Serve sub-grantees on Wednesday, February 27, 2002. The orientation, which all new Learn and Serve sub-grantees are required to attend, will be held in Indianapolis at the Government Center Complex - South Building in Conference Room D from 1:00 P.M. until 3:00 P.M. For more information, please contact Carey Craig, Program Officer, at (317) 232-2504, or by e-mail at [ccraig@dwd.state.in.us](mailto:ccraig@dwd.state.in.us).

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## Learn and Serve Sub-Grants

Beginning Monday, February 4, 2002, the Commission will not issue Request for Proposals (RFP) or entertain new proposals/letters of intent for youth-led community-based service-learning projects through the Learn and Serve program. The Commission has no plans of discontinuing the Learn and Serve program. However, the period from February to July will allow the Commission to close-out its 1995 and 1998 Learn and Serve grants and prepare its application for 2002 Learn and Serve funding. These are critical responsibilities for the Commission and we ask that each of you exercise patience with us during this time so that we can better serve our communities in the future. Should you have any questions please contact Carey Craig, Program Officer, at (317) 232-2504, or by e-mail at [ccraig@dwd.state.in.us](mailto:ccraig@dwd.state.in.us).

## Got Your 2016 Calendar?

If you could use a new wall calendar, you might enjoy one from Indiana 2016. (The calendars are actually for the year 2002, not for the year 2016 as the name might imply.) However, they are produced by Indiana 2016, a statewide endeavor headed by First Lady Judy O'Bannon promoting efforts by citizens to make their communities better places. The initiative takes its name from the state's bicentennial in 2016 and encourages communities to set goals for the future and to unite to make them a reality. The calendars spotlight volunteerism and serve as a reminder of important celebrations and observances volunteers may wish to recognize. Made possible by the generosity of the Community Bankers Association, the calendars are available from any member bank or through the Indiana 2016 office. Call program director Jennifer Swenson at 317-283-8175 to reserve a copy.

## Service-Learning: Connecting Schools and Communities

The Civic Literacy Project is hosting its annual spring conference on Thursday, March 7, 2002 in Indianapolis, Indiana. This year's conference theme is Service-Learning: Connecting Schools and Communities. Registration materials and conference information are available online at [www.serve.indiana.edu](http://www.serve.indiana.edu) or call 812-856-0528. The conference is intended for K-16 educators and students, AmeriCorps volunteers, and community based organizations interested in participating in informative and interactive workshops that fit into the following strands: Service-Learning Skill Development, Program Management, Partnerships in Service-Learning, Youth Service and Leadership, School Reform and Service-Learning, or special topics for Roundtable discussions.

## Keep in Touch!

ICCSV Staff	Phone	E-mail
Joseph L. Smith, Executive Director	(317) 233-3295	<a href="mailto:Jlsmith@dwd.state.in.us">Jlsmith@dwd.state.in.us</a>
Amber Roos, Deputy Director	(317) 233-0900	<a href="mailto:aroos@dwd.state.in.us">aroos@dwd.state.in.us</a>
Karyn Romer, Senior Program Officer	(317) 233-0901	<a href="mailto:kromer@dwd.state.in.us">kromer@dwd.state.in.us</a>
Carey Craig, Program Officer	(317) 232-2504	<a href="mailto:ccraig@dwd.state.in.us">ccraig@dwd.state.in.us</a>
Brandy Wood, Administrative Assistant	(317) 232-2503	<a href="mailto:bwood@dwd.state.in.us">bwood@dwd.state.in.us</a>
Alysha Jones, Promise Fellow	(317) 233-0902	<a href="mailto:ajones@dwd.state.in.us">ajones@dwd.state.in.us</a>

## Important Deadlines and Upcoming Events

Periodic Expense Report for Period Ending January 31 <sup>st</sup>	February 11, 2002
Deadline for Renewal Applications from Competitive AC Grantees	February 13, 2002
Progress Report (from Start Date through Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup> )	February 15, 2002
AAR for Program Year - Complete in WBRS using APR	February 15, 2002
AmeriCorps Promise Fellows Conference Call	February 22, 2002
Service-Learning: Connecting School & Communities Conference	March 7, 2002
Periodic Expense Report for Period Ending February 28 <sup>th</sup>	March 11, 2002
Deadline for Renewal Applications from Formula AC Grantees	March 18, 2002
Program Director's Conference Call	March 28, 2002

The *Friday Night Fax* is a periodic publication of the Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism. AmeriCorps Programs and community service partners may contribute information or be added to the distribution list by contacting Brandy Wood at (317) 232-2503 or via e-mail at [bwood@dwd.state.in.us](mailto:bwood@dwd.state.in.us)